

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A refrigerator comprising:
 - a housing;
 - a door pivotally coupled to the housing;
 - a striker connected to the housing; and
 - a latching arrangement carried by the door, the latching arrangement including:
 - a handle connected to the door for movement between a first position and a second position, the handle defining at least one cam surface; and
 - a pawl connected to the door for movement between a latched position engaged with the striker for securing the door in a closed position and an unlatched position allowing the door to be pivoted from the closed position, the pawl including a cam follower that cooperates with the at least one cam surface such that movement of the handle from the first position to the second position moves the pawl from the latched position to the unlatched position.
2. The refrigerator of Claim 1, wherein the handle is pivotally connected to the door for rotation about a first pivot axis.
3. The refrigerator of Claim 2, wherein the pawl is pivotally connected to the door for rotation about a second pivot axis.

4. The refrigerator of Claim 3, wherein the first and second pivot axes are spaced apart from one another.

5. The refrigerator of Claim 3, wherein the first and second pivot axes are parallel to one another.

6. The refrigerator of Claim 3, wherein the first and second pivot axes are vertically extending pivot axes.

7. The refrigerator of Claim 1, wherein the latching arrangement includes a biasing element carried by the handle for biasing the handle to the first position.

8. The refrigerator of Claim 7, wherein the biasing element is integrally formed with the handle.

9. The refrigerator of Claim 1, wherein the handle includes a slot, the slot defining the at least one cam surface.

10. The refrigerator of Claim 9, wherein the slot is an arcuate slot.

11. The refrigerator of Claim 9, wherein the slot is defined by at least a pair of fingers.

12. The refrigerator of Claim 1, wherein the latching arrangement is located at an edge of the door.

13. The refrigerator of Claim 1, wherein the latching arrangement is substantially disposed within a recess of the door and substantially hidden from view.

14. The refrigerator of Claim 1, wherein the refrigerator is for a motor vehicle.

15. A latching arrangement for a refrigerator having a housing, a door pivotally coupled to the housing and a striker connected to the housing, the latching arrangement comprising:

a handle for connection to the door for movement between a first position and a second position, the handle defining at least one cam surface; and

a pawl for connection to the door for movement between a latched position engaged with the striker for securing the door in a closed position and an unlatched position allowing the door to be pivoted from the closed position, the pawl including a cam follower that cooperates with the at least one cam surface such that movement of the handle from the first position to the second position moves the pawl from the latched position to the unlatched position.

16. The refrigerator of Claim 15, wherein the latching arrangement includes a biasing element carried by the handle for biasing the handle to the first position.

17. The refrigerator of Claim 16, wherein the biasing element is integrally formed with the handle.

18. The refrigerator of Claim 15, wherein the handle includes a slot, the slot defining the at least one cam surface.

19. The refrigerator of Claim 18, wherein the slot is an arcuate slot.
20. The refrigerator of Claim 18, wherein the slot is defined by at least a pair of fingers.
21. A refrigerator comprising:
 - a housing;
 - a door pivotally coupled to the housing, the door including a side, the side defining recess;
 - a striker connected to the housing; and
 - a latching arrangement carried by the door, the latching arrangement including:
 - a handle connected to the door for movement between a first position and a second position, the handle substantially disposed in the recess; and
 - a pawl connected to the door for movement between a latched position engaged with the striker for securing the door in a closed position and an unlatched position allowing the door to be pivoted from the closed position, the pawl cooperating with the handle.
22. The refrigerator of Claim 21, wherein the handle is pivotally connected to the door for rotation about a first pivot axis.

23. The refrigerator of Claim 22, wherein the pawl is pivotally connected to the door for rotation about a second pivot axis.

24. The refrigerator of Claim 23, wherein the first and second pivot axes are spaced apart from one another.

25. The refrigerator of Claim 23, wherein the first and second pivot axes are parallel to one another.

26. The refrigerator of Claim 23, wherein the first and second pivot axes are vertically extending pivot axes.

27. The refrigerator of Claim 21, wherein the side is a top side.

28. The refrigerator of Claim 21, wherein the handle is at least partly concealed by a perimeter of the door.